

**MIA McLEOD**

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February 4, 2020

Via E-mail

The Honorable Jocelyn Boyd  
Chief Clerk/Administrator  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia, SC 29210

Subject: Request to hold a Night Hearing in Richland County, South Carolina  
Docket No. 2019-281-S

Dear Ms. Boyd:

It is my understanding that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") has agreed to schedule a Public Night Hearing in Richland County, and that the date and location have not yet been established. I am writing on behalf of the people of Senate District 22, as well as the greater Richland County community, to request that the night hearing be held as soon as is practicable, to hear from Richland County customers on the proposed rate increase that has been requested by Palmetto Utilities, Inc. ("PUI") in Docket No. 2019-281-S. Please consider scheduling this night hearing during the month of February, at a location that is of sufficient size, as to accommodate a large number of customers.

The Application before the Commission contains a proposed increase to sewer customers that would result in an increase in revenue to Palmetto Utilities, of approximately \$5.9 million. According to the Application, customers living in Richland County will experience a significant rate increase of approximately 27.87% for sewer service, after having already experienced a substantial rate increase that was requested by Palmetto Utilities, Inc. in 2017.

Richland County customers should have an opportunity to provide testimony to the Commission about how this proposed rate increase will negatively impact them, their families and communities.

Therefore, I respectfully request that they be given that opportunity as soon as possible, in an appropriate venue with adequate space, and with an additional hearing date (if needed) to ensure that all ratepayers who wish to testify, can be heard.

Sincerely,

Senator Mia McLeod

cc: Richland County Legislative Delegation